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Electronic submission

Eric Berg
Deputy Chief of Health
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Re: Comment on Cal/OSHA's Draft Regulatory Text: Protection from Wildfire Smoke

Dear Deputy Chief Berg:

Dr. Mary C. Barlow, Kern County Superintendent of Schools is in agreement and support of the attached letter written by Dr. Steve Herrington, Sonoma County Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Barlow also believes there are significant differences in Air Quality Indexes (AQI) based on the differing geographical topography, population, industry and climatology for all regions. Example: the AQI of the San Joaquin Valley is very different than that of our neighboring Central Coast region where one region rarely meets the 2.5 particulate matter (PM) goals and the other region meets the 2.5 PM goals for AQI with ease.

This comment (and the above example) is meant to illustrate that the "one size fits all" proposed regulation for protection from Wildfire Smoke is not practical in all cases and is best left up to local authorities to determine what is in the best interest for all residents, workers and students of any particular county to protect themselves from wildfire smoke.

Sincerely,



Mary C. Barlow, Superintendent
Kern County Superintendent of Schools

MCB:mk